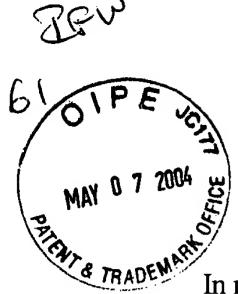
AP/1651



In the United States Patent & Trademark Office

In re Application of: Clausell, A. et al.

Serial No.: 09/978,498

Filed on: October 15, 2001

For: Reagents for Improved Cell-Based Assays

Examiner: Prats, F.

Art Unit: 1651

Atty Dkt. Nos.

3501-118 (LBW) 2055-181 (BC)

Reply

Honorable Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants respectfully request entry and consideration of the following response to the Final Official Action of February 9, 2004. Amendments to the claims are believed to put claims in condition for allowance.

No fee is believed to be due in order for the timely consideration of this Reply. If, however, the Commissioner determines that a fee is required for such consideration, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge any (Large Entity) fee required for consideration of this submission to Deposit Account 50-0548.